

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Applicant: Melanie John et al.
Serial No: not yet known (National Stage of PCT/DE2003/003025)
International Filing Date: 9/11/2003
For: Flat Connecting Hook

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

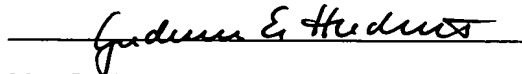
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the reference(s) cited on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

These references have been cited in the International Search Report of the international application of which the instant application is a national stage application. Please note that reference 4) has also been discussed in the instant specification on page 1 (2nd paragraph). A copy of the International Search Report is attached showing the relevance of the references as seen by the International Searching Authority.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted March 8, 2005,



Ms. Gudrun E. Huckett, Ph.D.
Patent Agent, Registration No. 35,747
Lönsstr. 53
42289 Wuppertal
GERMANY
Telephone: 49-202-257-0371
Facsimile: 49-202-257-0372
gudrun.draudt@t-online.de

GEH/Enclosures: [x] PTO 1449 [x] reference(s) [x] search report (incl. translation)

PTO 1449		Complete if Known 10/527104	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	PCT/DE2003/003025
		Intern. Filing Date	9/11/2003
		First Named Inventor	Melanie John
		Group Art Unit	
Date submitted: 3/08/05		Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 1		Attorney Docket No.	6355

U. S. PATENTS OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent or Publication Number	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	1	3,283,382	11/8/1966	Herbert Howard Wood			5/28/1965

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes No
	2	35 29 055	6/26/1986	Germany			X
	3	41 16 028	11/19/1992	Germany			X
	4	196 40 621	4/9/1998	Germany			X
	5	2 646 406	11/2/1990	France			X

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), Title of Article, Title of Item (Book, Journal, etc.), Date, Page(s), Volume or Issue No., Publisher, City and/or Country Where Published

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--